

SEIU MARYLAND & DC STATE COUNCIL

1410 Bush Street, Suite F, Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Testimony in **OPPOSITION to House Bill 1321**

Labor and Employment – Right to Work House Economic Matters Committee March 5, 2021 1:30 PM

Presented to: Dereck E. Davis, Chairman By: Terry Cavanagh, Executive Director

SEIU Maryland & DC State Council urges a **Unfavorable Report to HB 1321.**

SEIU is the largest union in North America. We unite workers in health care, public service, including public education, and property services to improve lives and the services we provide. We represent over 50,000 workers in the Maryland/DC/Virginia region.

This bill has been brought up year after year after year. And year after year after year it is wisely rejected by the House of Delegates and the Economic Matters Committee.

If your goal is to weaken workers' rights, pass this bill.

If your goal is to weaken wage and other labor standards, pass this bill.

If your goal is to strengthen corporate power at the expense of everyone else, pass this bill.

Despite the claims of the many conservative politicians who have championed this bill, so-called *Right To Work* does not create jobs, and it lowers workers' wages.

These efforts go back almost 75 years and are promoted by those who see a political advantage to weakening unions by defunding them. That may be true, but there is a more important issue at stake with this legislation.

Stronger unions mean greater stability for workers, their families and their communities. It means workers are more likely to have livable wages and benefits for themselves and their families. With higher wage rates, we are better able to fund our schools and other public services.

We urge a Unfavorable Report on HB 1321. Thank you.